



THE FARMER'S TALK TO FARMERS

REVELATION OF A TEST OF METHODS

(Written Specially for The Bulletin.)

When you think you've learned something about how to farm it is the next thing you find out is that what you've learned isn't so.

That's one thing that makes farming so irritating to some folks. It's one of the charms of the business to others, who rather enjoy puzzles and enigmas.

In either case, it's one of the things that keep us guessing and that prevent us from getting rusty.

Here's this much proposition, for instance:

Some of us have come to regard the making and keeping of a good, mellow dirt mulch on the surface of our cultivated lands as one of the very first duties of man.

We have learned from observation and experiment that it promotes plant growth, that it holds weeds in check, and that it minimizes the damage from drought.

So, we've got into the habit of swearing by our mulch. We've attended to that, first thing, even if other things which are regarded as of rather secondary importance had to be slighted, temporarily.

But now comes a little bit of news from the Illinois experiment station which seems to go right against this idea of the value of cultivation and mulching.

For eight years that station has been experimenting with various forms and methods of tillage, to see if it could determine what one was the best for corn, which is the great Illinois staple. They have cultivated patches of corn in about all the ways it is possible to cultivate the crop, and have kept careful tab on the results. They have tried deep cultivation and medium cultivation and shallow cultivation. All these with horse tools. On one patch they have carried the shallow cultivation idea to its extreme limit.

Instead of working the dirt so as to mellow it and make a mulch the surface was just scraped with a hoe. That is, the weeds were cut off just below the surface of the ground—not over an inch below in any case. No attempt was made to stir the soil more deeply for the purpose of aeration, nor to loosen it to make a mulch.

Right here comes in the knock-down to our mulchers and cultivators—for the eight consecutive years this has been done, that scraped but uncultivated patch has produced more corn without a single exception than the patches right next to it which were cultivated and mulched.

One dry year it yielded at the rate of 12 bushels an acre better; another dry year at the rate of nine and a half bushels better; for the whole eight years the average has been about six and three-quarters bushels better.

Now, what d'ye think of that?

Here we've been preaching and practicing the idea that weed-killing was half so important as cultivation and soil-mulching.

But this experiment seems to intimate that weed-killing is the right medicine and that cultivation and soil-mulching do more harm than good.

When I first read about the experiment and its results I felt very much as if I'd been suddenly turned upside down and stood on my head.

I was in a mood to join with "W. N. Y." in seriously denouncing whether or no civilization was a failure and the Caucasian played out.

I looked out of the back window at my garden which have been persistently cultivated and industriously mulched and which, in the main, are looking and yielding pretty well. When I reviewed some of the other less carefully tended crops I'd seen in the last few weeks which are not doing so well.

There is one spot in my own garden which happens to be inaccessible to horse tools and which we've had to

work solely with hand hoes. Are the cabbages there better than elsewhere? Well, I rather guess not. Instead, they are clearly and unmistakably less advanced than the rest of the patch.

What then? Are those Illinois people mistaken? I don't think so. They're just about as able to see the hole in a millstone as I am.

Are they lying? Not on your life. They're just as honest as you and I, and acted by a sincere desire to find out the truth and report it no matter what it is, nor whose corns it hits.

On the other hand, am I blind and ignorant and unreasonable in my determination to keep on cultivating and mulching? I don't think so.

But how can we both be right?

Well, how could both the knights in the shop-worn old story of the shield be right? One said it was white and the other said it was black, and it wasn't till after they'd slivered their lances and torn their clothes and chopped holes in each other's cor-porations that they discovered it was both white and black—white on one side and black on the other.

There are not merely two sides to the farming proposition; there are about eleven hundred and seventy-seven sides. And they're not all of them visible to the same eyes from the same angle at the same time, either.

There's a difference between Illinois loam and New England gravel, to begin with.

There's a difference between Illinois and New England climate, for another thing.

There's a difference between Illinois and New England weeds. They have quite different ones to fight from those which visit us.

There's a difference between corn and some other crops, such as cabbage and cucumbers and potatoes and peas and oats and onions.

There's a most tremendous difference in the demands of varying plants, as is clearly shown by the difference in their root systems.

Did you ever see a picture of the roots and rootlets of a corn hill? Or, better yet, did you ever see the roots themselves, as they appear when carefully washed out of the soil in which they were growing?

The root system of a corn-hill of forty thirty stalks reaches to about every inch in a block of soil three feet square, and fills it from within an inch or less of the surface down as deep as the roots can penetrate, or as deep as there is anything for them to go after.

Of course, cultivation which plows deep enough or cuts close enough to the hills to destroy any considerable number of these roots weakens the plant by lessening its feeding capacity.

That is why shallow cultivation of corn has been recommended for 60 years by corn experts.

This experiment to which we are referring proves that, on a certain field, in a certain county in Illinois, a certain kind of corn has done measurably better when shallow cultivation was carried to its very extreme limit.

Whether it was more profitable is not shown. It costs more to hand-hoe an acre of corn land than to horse-hoe it. Certainly it costs twice, and I should fancy might cost three times as much. That the slight increase in crop noted would pay for this increased labor cost is not clear. It might. And then again, it might not.

Moreover we are given no information as to how this extremely shallow working of the soil, one year, affected the crop which followed in rotation, next year, nor what its permanent influence may have been on the general agricultural value of the land.

Yet these are both factors demanding consideration—really of more im-

portance than the question of any single season's crop.

One swallow doesn't make a summer. A man may very certainly see a real swallow really flying in a real sky. But he'd better not set out his tomatoes in April on that ground alone. He'd better go a little slow and wait till a concurrence of evidence makes a reasonably probable that there won't be another tomato-killing frost.

The fact is that it isn't possible for any one farmer on any farm in any state to lay down a set of hard-and-fast rules for other farmers on other farms in other states.

Every farm should be its own experiment station, and every farmer his own experimenter, ex officio. What other experiments on other farms?

But it won't do to let your own self nor to accept from others arbitrary rules covering any very large area.

I know that in only five acres of

truck-garden I have to vary treatment, both as respects fertilization and cultivation, very widely. What is whole-some medicine for the head up by the old lincklin is deadly dope for a patch down behind the wagon-house. I have to treat my asparagus very differently from my cabbages, and my potatoes very differently from my corn.

If there are such variations of soil and such differences of necessary treatment on five acres, what wider variations might not be presumed of far apart farms?

Some years ago a series of tests conducted by the New York experiment station indicated that, on their clay loam soil, three cultivations of corn produced better crops than two cultivations, and that five were better yet, and seven better than five. These were all with horse tools, and therefore went to depths of from two to four inches.

No, brother: what's sauce for the goose is not always sauce for the gander. Better find out for yourself what your own particular going needs before you mix up the mayonnaise.

THE FARMER.

DANIELSON AND PUTNAM NEWS

DANIELSON

F. B. L. Outing to Be Held Today—Probability That Work on Main Street Paving Will Begin Before Long—Ulysses Jessup Dead at 90—Mrs. Minor Smith and Miss Geer Recovering from Accident.

Mrs. Benjamin Green, wife of Dr. Green of Chicago University, is spending a few days with Dr. and Mrs. Elsie Robinson.

Buyer of Partner's Interest. Hoses Green has bought the interest of Michael Grimshaw, Jr., in the business they have been conducting at Dayville, Orville H. Baker of Worcester, an expert in his line, is to be associated with Mr. Green.

Mrs. Harriet Burroughs and Mr. and Mrs. Francis McGowan returned to Danielson Friday after a stay of two months at Mystic.

Dr. and Mrs. Elsie Robinson motored to Colchester Thursday and were guests of the Misses Elizabeth and Sarah Bigelow.

William A. Goodell Dead. The body of William A. Goodell, formerly of Dayville, who died in Providence Thursday, is to be brought here for burial today. Mr. Goodell was a veteran of the Civil war and a member of McGregor post, G. A. R.

Miss Annie Rossiter of Philadelphia is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John Kennedy of Academy street.

Open Air Service. Rev. J. W. Wright of Dayville will preach at the open air service on Davis park Sunday evening.

Harry Young of Mechanic street is ill at Colchester beach, but his condition is not regarded as serious.

W. I. Bullard motored to Boston on a business trip.

Martin E. Shedd of Norwich has been a recent visitor here.

Cards from Los Angeles. Cards bearing a Los Angeles date that have been received here indicate that Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Bottomly and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Glendinning are now at the exposition in San Francisco, having motored across the continent.

John Aylward is in New York to attend the funeral of James Aylward, his only brother, which is being held this morning.

Ray Hamilton will be the guest of friends in Boston over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Augustin Higgins have been entertaining Charles Murray and daughters, Anna and Esther, of Waterville, Me.

Miss Grace Spaulding has returned from a stay at Northampton and other Massachusetts points.

Mrs. Harry H. Hamilton of Providence is visiting here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Bill of Academy street.

Frank A. Rowell of Providence spent Friday with friends in Danielson.

George Crowell, of Berlin, N. H., formerly a resident of Danielson, is visiting his friends here.

Thomas Caffery has gone to Hartford, where he is employed by an automobile tire concern.

Miss Beatrice Lindner has been spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Keach, formerly of Danielson, in New Britain.

At Albion, N. Y. Rev. A. Kneil of Brooklyn is at Albion, N. Y., for a month's vacation.

John H. Fenton of Lowell was a visitor with friends in Danielson Friday.

The date has been set for the annual lawn fête at St. Joseph's parish grounds in Dayville.

Elizabeth Vigor of Boston is visiting one of the cottages at Alexander's lake.

Town Clerk Frank T. Preston has received a limited number of volumes of the Public Acts of 1915.

PUTNAM

Mrs. Minor Smith Brought to Hospital Body of John Kilborn Exhumed at Oswego—Chamber of Commerce Meeting Unanimously Favors Trade School Retention.

Dr. and Mrs. Herbert W. Foster, of Montclair, N. J., were visitors with relatives here on route to Maine on a vacation trip.

Cyril Remillard, Jr., is at Sound View for a vacation visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Byron Lamond have been recent visitors in New York.

Mrs. Smith Brought to Hospital. Mrs. Minor Smith, injured in an automobile accident at Elmville, was brought to the Day Kimball hospital Friday afternoon for treatment of an injured hand.

Suffrage Meeting. Mrs. Katherine Bill of Danielson spoke at a meeting out of doors in the interest of equal suffrage rights for women at the high school grounds Friday evening.

Rev. F. D. Sargent has been a visitor at Brookline, N. H., this week.

Miss Katherine Seward has been spending a few days with friends in Manchester.

Mrs. C. T. Thayer of Grove street, who is ill at the home of relatives in

ing that reading during the early afternoon.

Rev. Ignatius Koet of Dayville is causing the Catholic Mission church at Ballouville.

Mrs. William Sweet, formerly Miss Ida Tillingham of South Killingly, is in the city for a visit from her home in La Jolla, Cal.

All Run-Risks. Even the most careful drivers of automobiles were thinking seriously Friday of the necessity of protecting themselves by taking out liability insurance.

The night's accident at Elmville, Thursday evening, was another illustration that careful drivers run risks as well as reckless ones.

For the safety of the road is no greater for anyone than that degree which may be measured against the worst driving of the worst drivers one is apt to meet.

Improvement Needed. It now appears probable that State Highway Commissioner Charles J. Bennett will soon ask for bids for permanent paving of Main street in the business section. It certainly needs that reinforced concrete work, considering this improvement for some time and has made two visits to Danielson.

It is expected that bids will be asked for within a few days and the contract promptly let and the work undertaken and completed before cold weather.

That will pay the cost. It is expected that the amount of money to be used, this making a highly satisfactory and durable road.

If the plans go through, it has been suggested that the work be done in the habit of digging up Main street for pipe lines, etc., do all the work of this nature, and that can be foreseen, before the pavement is put down.

DEAD AT 90. Ulysses Jessup's Health Broken by Infirmities of Age.

Ulysses Jessup, 90, died late Thursday night at his home on Railroad street. Death was due to infirmities incident to his advanced years.

Mr. Jessup has been a resident here for a number of years. He formerly lived in the vicinity of Elliott. He leaves a wife and the following children: Grant Jessup, South Woodstock; Ernest Jessup, East Woodstock; a daughter, Mrs. Sarah Clark, Moosup.

Shaken Up in Thursday Night's Accident. Mrs. Minor Smith and Miss Clara Geer, injured in the automobile accident at Elmville Thursday night, showed no signs Friday of having been more seriously injured than was first indicated, but both were suffering from the effects of the hurts received and from the shock of the affair. They remained at their camp near Alexander's lake. The cut on Mrs. Smith's face is a severe one and undoubtedly will leave a scar.

Interest in Today's Game. Danielson will be represented by a large number of fans at the big game between Southbridge and Putnam this afternoon. There is surprising interest here in the event, which comes nearest to being a local issue, offering that has come to these parts in years. In a way, it recalls the old days when Danielson and Putnam were great baseball rivals and striving so hard to wrest victory from one another. Today, however, Danielsonites can be neutral if they wish and enjoy the game to the fullest.

Next Mon. Tues. AUDITORIUM

PARAMOUNT PICTURES 4-REELS-4 THE BEST ON EARTH

DANIEL FROHMAN GABY DESLYS IN HER TRIUMPH

First and Only Appearance of This Celebrated Star in Pictures

THE TALE OF HIS PANTS, Comedy with Eddie Lyons | SIMPLY POLLY with Pauline Bush

TODAY—BUCKSHOT JOHN—3-Real Western Outlaw—Feature and Others

Danielson, was reported as better Friday.

A band leading a parade of players will help stir up additional enthusiasm over the big baseball game this afternoon.

Mrs. Alexander Gilman and daughter Sybil, have gone to Silver Lake, near Barnard, Vt., for a vacation visit.

A Scorching Day. A temperature averaging about 94 degrees was reported from various sections of the city Friday.

To Fix Sealer's Salary. A meeting to fix the salary of the county sealer of weights and measures and to attend to other matters that may need attention is to be held by the members of the last general assembly from Windham county is to be held at the Putnam Inn today, as required by a recently enacted law which provides that such action shall be taken before August 1.

DAVIS THEATRE Keith's Vaudeville Mutual Master Pictures

TODAY—ANOTHER BIG TIME GIRL ACT

Five Beauties and a Spot CLASSY MUSICAL COMEDY

4 REEL MASTER PICTURE BY RICHARD HARDING DAVIS

Captain Macklin A Drama of Love and War With Lillian Gish

MUTUAL MOVIES AND COMIC KODEKES

COMING NEXT WEEK CAPT. KIDDER CO. AN OPERATIC COMEDY 1 ACT—5 People, Special Scenery

THE CUP OF LIFE 6-PART MUTUAL MASTER PICTURE

A Strong Dramatic Feature with Beulah Barris Cole

Matinee 2:30—10c. Children 5c. Evening 7 and 9:45—15c, 20c

COOLEST THEATRE IN THE CITY

KILBORN'S BODY EXHUMED. To Determine Whether Death Was Due to Accident.

A press despatch from Oswego, N. Y., states that the body of John Kilborn, a traveling salesman who died in a hotel in this city a number of weeks ago had been exhumed to determine if possible, whether the death was due to an accidental cause.

At the time of Kilborn's death Dr. J. B. Kent, medical examiner, made a note in Dr. G. B. Kent's report showing that the cause of death was believed to be a heart failure and not a fall from the bridge of the nose, this probably having been sustained when Kilborn may have fallen against a marble slab near the faucet where he is believed to have gone to get a drink of water.

A son of the deceased came here following his father's death and arranged for sending the body to Mexico, N. Y., for burial.

Friday an agent of an insurance company that carried an accident policy covering Kilborn, was in this city investigating the matter. It is understood that Kilborn's relatives have made a claim to recover under the terms of this policy on the ground that Kilborn's death was due to accidental causes.

The body was exhumed to ascertain whether Kilborn had actually suffered a fracture of the skull when he received the bruise that was noted near the bridge of his nose soon after his death.

FOR TRADE SCHOOL. Chamber of Commerce Wants School Retained and Special Building Erected for It.

The chamber of commerce meeting on Thursday evening at Odd Fellows' hall devoted its attention to the trade school, going on record in favor of retaining the school here, and instructing a committee to find out exactly what sort of a building will be needed, and how it can be paid for; and asking Frederick J. Trinder, assistant secretary of the state board of education with special jurisdiction over trade schools, to speak.

Mr. Trinder, who came to Putnam for the purpose, in response to the invitation of the committee, went back to the beginning of the movement, which resulted in establishing the school here, and gave a history of the school as it has grown and more suitable quarters would be absolutely necessary if the school is to have the development that it should.

The town will erect a building at a cost of about \$15,000, the state will continue the present machine shop, wood working, and electrical departments, and add largely to the cotton department, so as to give the complete process from bale to cloth; and install the machinery needed to treat the woolen and silk branches as well. The state will provide heat, light, power and janitor service, as well as the teachers.

By comparison with what other towns offer to secure a state trade school, Mr. Trinder showed that the chamber of commerce here is doing a very good thing.

Another surprise to some was the statement that the state would probably not continue indefinitely to maintain the school as it is at present, in case the town would not provide a building; for there are 52 towns that have applied for schools, and the board can only put them where there is the most demand, measured by what the people of the town are willing to do in help.

Value of School. Arthur D. Low, chairman of the chambers committee on the subject, spoke at length on the value of a trade school properly run. The present school, with its cramped quarters, limited equipment, and no evening classes for employed men and boys, was of very little value indeed. From experience with the trade school in other parts of the state, he said that there were more than ten times as many pupils in the evening as at the day sessions. About 75 per cent of the men in responsible positions in Fall River mills, from second hands up to superintendents, either are students or graduates of the trade school there.

Evening Classes Commenced. J. P. Geandreau, a boss weaver, and Chief Mechanic Tolman, spoke of the value of such a school, and of men who would attend evening classes. Mr. Geandreau said that he owed his rise to such courses.

Chester E. Child and C. S. Andem asked questions and raised possible objections, emphasizing especially the need of keeping the tax rate down.

Alexander Gilman, James H. Cutler, Dr. Omer LeBar and others spoke in favor of the plan, and on motion of John J. McGarry the meeting by a unanimous rising vote went on record as in favor of keeping the school here.

It was then voted to appoint a committee to secure definite plans for such a school building, and for financing the same; to give them publicity, and to take steps to bring the matter before the voters. It is understood that the land, owned by the town, on

Colonial Theatre

Mary Pickford in "A Rich Revenge," Exquisite Drama

"WIFE FOR WIFE," 3 Reels, with Broadway Favorites Cast

"For Her Happiness," Blog, "The Bouquet," Swedish Comedy Feature

Coming Monday—SEVEN DAYS, the Season's Biggest Hit

BIG SACRIFICE SALE IN SUMMER FOOTWEAR AT ALEXANDER'S BOOT SHOP

WE WANT ALL MEN AND WOMEN TO COME IN AND SAVE THEIR MONEY ON HIGH GRADE SHOES.

Special in Men's Rubber Sole Oxford at \$2.35, value \$3.50.

Special in Ladies' Pumps, at \$1.75, \$2.25 and \$2.45, value \$2.60, \$3.00 and \$3.50.

Prices marked in the window

Alexander's Boot Shop OPPOSITE COLONIAL THEATRE

Providence street just west of the high school, would probably be selected as a site in the event of the town's deciding to build.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Trinder was carried, and a record of the action of the meeting was ordered sent to the state board.

Seven New Members Admitted. Seven new members were elected to the chamber. Various committees reported, mostly showing progress. The next meeting will be held at the call of the president, in consultation with the directors. The matter of commission form of government, with a city manager, and possibly involving the consolidation of town and city governments, is being considered by a committee; and the formation of a building and loan association is also under advisement.

It is understood that a recent scouting trip by a representative of the chamber will result in the closing of a good contract for a local factory.

A meeting of the directors will be held early in the coming week.

BRIEF STATE NEWS

Niantic—Miss Fannie Raymond of Babylon, L. I., is visiting Miss Grace Coulter.

Moosup—Rev. T. E. Tierman caught a bass at Lake Bassard, Monday that weighed three pounds.

Harwinton.—Preliminary sketches for the new town hall in Harwinton are being prepared by the architect.

Higganum.—The Cutaway Harrow company started this week after having been shut down a week taking inventory.

Hartford.—A farewell dinner was given in Hartford the other night by the Hartford Press club for John J. Whitehead, state editor of the Hartford Times who fetters from that place

today (Saturday) to go to the Vogue, the New York publication.

Portland—Business is brisk at the Portland yacht yard these days. Several more men have been employed to ship out.

Rocky Hill.—The artesian well of F. E. Belden is completed. It is 80 feet deep and furnishes eight gallons of water a minute.

Winchester—Woman's College club of Litchfield county recently held its annual picnic at the home of Mrs. A. A. Smith, Winchester.

Saybrook—Mrs. Richard Wightman will leave next week for the Pacific coast to meet her daughter, who is coming from Australia.

Portland.—Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Raferly and daughter, Miss Elizabeth, left Tuesday for Weekpaug, R. I., where they will spend several weeks.

Rockville.—The third municipal band concert was given Wednesday night on Talcut park. The Foot Guard-band of Hartford furnished the music.

East Lyme.—Customs Collector and Mrs. McGovern of Bridgeport are the guests of Deputy Sheriff Joseph C. Cornsack at the Cornsack cottage at Black Point.

Naugatuck.—That camp life appeals to a large number of the people of this borough is evident from the fact that a large number of the employees of the local factories are going to spend their vacations to camp during the next two weeks.

Love in the Peasage. Lord Northcliffe has demonstrated to Lord Kitchener that there is room enough in the British peasage to throw bricks.—Chicago News.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

THE BROOKLYN SAVINGS BANK (Incorporated, A. D. 1872) PHOENIX BLOCK, DANIELSON, CONN.

July 3, 1915

Assets \$2,505,128.07

Deposits \$2,368,609.39

Surplus and Undivided Profits \$136,518.68

This Bank Transacts a Strictly Savings Bank Business

J. A. ATWOOD, President. W. H. BURNHAM, Vice President

CLARENCE A. POTTER, Treasurer

National Banks

Deposits made on or before the fifth of the month draw interest from most rigid Government supervision, make them so. Open an account NOW with the old reliable National Bank of this community where it is ABSOLUTELY safe and will be repaid you.

Our Savings Department pays you FOUR PER CENT. interest. Deposits made on or before the fifth of the month draw interest from the first.

Total Resources, \$650,000

THE WINDHAM COUNTY NATIONAL BANK DANIELSON, CONN.

Keen Kutter AND **Imperial SCYTHES**

EVERY ONE FULLY WARRANTED

SPECIAL BARGAINS

25c HUMMER WINDOW SCREENS 20c

35c HUMMER WINDOW SCREENS 30c

40c HUMMER WINDOW SCREENS 35c

STEEL SCREENS at Reduced Prices

\$4.50 LAWN MOWERS \$3.75

\$5.00 LAWN MOWERS \$4.25

\$5.50 LAWN MOWERS \$4.75

GARDEN HOSE

25 ft. 4-ply, 3/4-inch, \$2.50, reduced to \$2.00

25 ft. 5-ply, 3/4-inch, \$2.75, reduced to \$2.25

25 ft. 6-ply, 3/4-inch, \$3.25, reduced to \$2.75

50 ft. 6-ply, 3/4-inch, \$6.75, reduced to \$5.50

50 ft. 7-ply, 3/4-inch, \$7.50, reduced to \$6.00

10c FLY-KILLERS 5c

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LIBRARY CONTEST

Bulletin Coupon

GOOD FOR FIVE VOTES

Deposit this Coupon in ballot box at Deacon's Store, Putnam. Fill out properly on space below.

Name of Contestant.....

Name of Voter.....

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Six consecutive Coupons Monday to Saturday inclusive will entitle holder to 50 extra votes.